

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 657

By Kurita

A RESOLUTION to congratulate and commend Barry Kitterman upon the publication of his first novel and for his meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their remarkable talents and extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as educators of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Barry Kitterman, who will be publishing his first novel, *The Baker's Boy*, in May of 2008, and is a dedicated professor at Austin Peay State University; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the University of Montana with a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing, Mr. Kitterman admirably served the United States and the people of Belize from 1976 to 1978 as a Peace Corps teacher, counselor, and caseworker; and

WHEREAS, a true servant of our global community, Barry Kitterman has lived and worked in such varied locales as Ohio, Indiana, China, and Taiwan. He has been a professor of English at Austin Peay State University's Department of Languages and Literature since 1995; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kitterman has plied his considerable writing skills and his talent for teaching at Austin Peay as the Director of the creative writing program and as Fiction Editor for the school's literary magazine, *Zone 3*. He has also enriched the educations of countless students by bringing internationally renowned writers, such as Tim O'Brien and Carolyn Forché, to the campus for presentations and visits with students and instructors; and

WHEREAS, well-respected by his teaching and writing colleagues across the nation, Barry Kitterman has earned distinction as a recipient of the Tennessee Arts Commission's 2001 Individual Artist Grant for Literary Arts and a fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, continuing his tradition of outstanding writing that has earned him publication in such literary venues as *The Long Story*, *Cutbank*, *California Quarterly*, and *Carolina Quarterly*, this skilled author's first novel is already meeting with critical acclaim, as it is being compared to classics of the English literary canon like William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work as an author and a professor, Mr. Kitterman, an assiduous public servant, still finds time to lend his talents to several organizations that promote the appreciation of literature and the development of the arts amongst youth; he also assists other universities and colleges in the development of their creative writing programs; and

WHEREAS, Barry Kitterman is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Jill, and his children, Ted and Hannah; and

WHEREAS, he epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Kitterman for his immense literary skill and his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Barry Kitterman on the publication of his first novel, *The Baker's Boy*, and honor and commend him for his laudable service to the State of Tennessee as a professor and stalwart supporter of the arts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.